Essential commodities to Tribals of Madhya Pradesh

2293. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in order to provide essential commodities to the Tribals of Madhya Pradesh Government have decided to raise the quota of foodgrains to the State every month;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any action to provide essential commodities to the Tribals living in remote areas of the State during the ensuing monsoon season; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The Central Government has made additional allocation of foodgrains under the Scheme of Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) to Madhya Pradesh for distribution to the people living in the identified blocks in the State which include all the areas covered by the Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDP). A quantity of 21920 tonnes of foodgrains was allotted each for the months of June and July, 1992. This additional allocation is expected to be a net addition to the RPDS areas over and above the allocations already being made by the State Government to these areas. The State Governments are responsible for implementation of PDS within their jurisdiction. Intra-regional allocations including storage planning of PDS commodities within the State are decided by the State Governments. Such planning generally covers; the need for ensuring continuous availability of essential commodities throughout the year including the monsoon season.

CIL to take up large thermal power projects at the coal pithead

2294. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to allow Coal India Limited to take up large thermal power projects at the coal pithead;

(b) if so, the reasons for constructing thermal power projects at the coal pithead;

(c) whether the proposed power projects would be utilised for its captive consumption purposes; and

(d) if so, by when these would be built and what would be the total expenditure involved therein?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (d) Keeping in view the long-term projections of demand for power by Coal India Limited (CIL) and likely availability from the grid, CIL has set up a number of diesel based generating sets at various locations in the coal mines. In addition, three coal based captive power stations of 20 MW capacity each have been sanctioned by the Government for three locations, one each in ECL, BCCL and CCL. The total expenditure on these three Captive Power Stations is Rs. 175 crores approximately.

These Captive Power Stations have been set up to meet the emergency power requirement of deep underground mines for ensuring sefety and for maintaining winding, ventilation and pumping services. Since the washery operations are also sensitive to power interruptions, coking coal washeries are also supplied power from these captive stations.

Since the requirement of power of the coal mines is increasing and the supply position from the grid continues to be unsatisfactory, CIL is planning to set up more coal based captive power stations at different locations. The size of these stations would depend upon the power demand of underground mines